

December 17, 2014 WMPO Bike/Ped Committee Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

Adrienne Harrington, WMPO
Joe Boyd, Belville
Jerry Haire, Carolina Beach
Steve Whitney, Brunswick County
Matt Hogan, NC Board of Transportation
Niel Brooks, Town of Leland
Athina Williams, Town of Belville
Joe Breault, Town of Belville
Katie Ryan, Wrightsville Beach
Karin Mills, City of Wilmington
Trey Burke, Navassa
Tom Campbell, Carolina Beach
Al Schroetel, Cape Fear Cyclists
Andy Christy, Pender County
Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County
Sharon Boyd, UNCW

Minutes:

New Business

- A. Battleship Connector Presentation and resolution of support – J. Breault
- K. Mills asked about parking along the proposed route. J. Breault informed there are about 120 spaces at the Belville Park. K. Mills also asked about the navigability of the Brunswick River. J. Breault informed that the current bridges are about 4 feet above water. The new bridge (Causeway project) will be about 9 feet above water. C. O'Keefe asked about crossing the Cape Fear River to connect to downtown Wilmington. A. Harrington replied with information about the East Coast Greenway alignment including taking the river taxi across the Cape Fear Rivre. N. Brooks asked about hiring a consultant to develop the plan. J. Breault said they are talking to CAMA and working on getting enough support to justify spending the money. A. Schroetel offered a letter of support for the project from Cape Fear Cyclists. K. Mills asked if the Brunswick River Park included a pedestrian only path. J. Breault replied that it is for both cyclists and pedestrians as it is a 10' wide path. S. Whitney asked if conversation have occurred with the county. J. Breault said yes, the county donated the land back to the town and they support the concept. T. Burke asked about maintenance agreements. J. Breault said the Town of Belville will maintain from the Brunswick Riverwalk Park to the Battleship. N. Brooks asked if a subcommittee could be set up in an effort to coordinate among jurisdictions. J. Breault agreed with the idea of the WMPO setting up the committee to be run by an appropriate member jurisdiction. Cape Fear Cyclists would like to be included on that committee. A. Harrington asked about the WMPO Bike/Ped Committee supporting a resolution several years ago regarding the addition of bicycle

and pedestrian facilities on any new or improved facility crossing the Cape Fear. N. Brooks reiterated this project being in the concept stage, not the planning stage. The WMPO Bike/Ped committee voted to support the resolution with the following changes:

- Title of resolution: add “concept” so the title reads “Resolution supporting the concept of the Brunswick Battleship Connector”
- In the second ‘whereas’, swap the words ‘outdoor’ and ‘nature’
- In the fourth ‘whereas’, it should read, “intent for the Brunswick Battleship Connector will be to seek funding sources including State and Federal grants in the areas of recreation, education, conservation, preservation, and historical preservation”
- In the ‘now therefore’, add “further” so it would read “...hereby supports further development”
- In the ‘now therefore’, add “concept” so it would read “...Brunswick Battleship Connector concept”

Motion by T. Campbell, second by S. Whitney, and it passed unanimously

- B. Resolution of Support for Westgate Nature Park Phase II grant application - N. Brooks
N. Brooks presented a map including Phase I, also funded by PARTF. The WMPO Bike/Ped Committee voted to support the resolution with a motion by K. Ryan, second by J. Boyd, and it passed unanimously
- C. Resolution of Support for APA/APHA Capacity Building Proposal – A. Harrington
The WMPO Bike/Ped Committee voted to support the resolution with a motion by N. Brooks, second by S. Boyd, and it passed unanimously

Other Discussion

- A. Cape Fear Transportation 2040 Update – A. Harrington
Harrington informed the committee that their project list of 140 project has been through the prioritization process and will be going through a fiscal constraint analysis. She informed the committee that the final draft MTP bike/ped project list should be complete by early February 2015.
- B. Bike Suitability Map update – A. Harrington
Harrington informed the committee that the Bike Suitability Map subcommittee has been working hard to develop the WMPO Bike Suitability Map. They are on target for a print and distribution target of the month of March. The draft map will be presented to the WMPO Bike/Ped Committee.
- C. Bike/Ped Committee tasks for 2015
Harrington provided several tasks identified by Mike Kozlosky (Executive Director of the WMPO), Suraiya Rashid (Senior Transportation Planner), and C. O’Keefe. See attached presentation. Confirmed tasks are those that are already known tasks to be taken on by the WMPO Bike/Ped Committee. Potential tasks are those that need guidance from the WMPO Bike/Ped Committee to determine which ones to move forward with. Other programs are tasks that could be lead by the WMPO Bike/Ped Committee members, but the WMPO does not have the resources to lead and implement those tasks alone.
Additional discussion regarding WMPO Bike/Ped Committee tasks included:

- Getting in ahead of projects that are not primarily bike/ped projects to include bike/ped facilities
- Comprehensive plans and how bike/ped is involved
- Interest in rail road realignment
- College Road safety – including landscaping the median to include creative, innovative solutions to improve safety
- Watch For Me NC campaign – committee members would like to get information about specific bike/ped/driver law. They would also like to see more signage about the law, particularly at the beach towns/high tourism areas
- Add planning and legislative updates to agenda

The WMPO Bike/Ped Committee confirmed that it would like to make all of the “potential tasks” “confirmed tasks”

WMPO BikePed Committee Meeting

Wednesday December 17th, 2014

Bike/Ped Committee Tasks - 2015

- Confirmed tasks
 - Bike Suitability Map
 - Watch For Me NC
 - Bike Month Events
- Potential tasks
 - Maintenance & problems on existing facilities (reporting)
 - Including bike/ped facilities in other projects
 - Planning updates
- Other Programs
 - Bike Friendly Business
 - Adopt-A-Trail
 - Bike Ambassador
 - Sponsorship opportunities